

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 and 7-33 are pending; Claims 1 and 26 are amended; and Claim 6 is cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Yoshida (U.S. Pat. No. 5,333,560). Claims 7-12 were indicated as allowable. Claims 13-33 were allowed.¹

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 7-12 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants further acknowledge with appreciation the indication that Claims 13-33 are allowed.

With regard to the outstanding rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Yoshida, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

As amended, Claim 1 recites that a pattern selecting device is provided at the main body and is configured to select one of the at least two sewing patterns memorized in the memorizing device; and a control device is provided at the main body, the control device being capable of changing the selected one of the at least two sewing patterns, while the selected one of the at least two sewing patterns is in use, to another of the at least two sewing patterns to be used. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, at paragraph [0036] of the specification.

As described in the specification, the Applicants recognized an advantageous arrangement is achieved where the machine changes the selected one of the at least two sewing patterns, while the selected one of the at least two sewing patterns is in use, to another of the at least two sewing patterns to be used. As illustrated in Figure 10, for example, the

¹ Applicants note that at page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated an objection to the specification. However, no objection was set forth in the text of Office Action.

claimed configuration can be particularly advantageous in enabling formation of appropriately gathered seams.

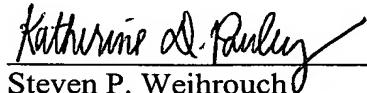
Yoshida relates to a programmed lock stitch sewing machine having a display. However, Yoshida does not disclose or suggest that a sewing pattern can be switched from one sewing pattern to another sewing pattern while the first sewing pattern is in use. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that Yoshida fails to disclose or suggest that a control device, which is capable of switching between two selected patterns, is provided at a main body. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Yoshida. Likewise, it is respectfully submitted that dependent Claims 2-5 patentably distinguish over Yoshida. It is therefore respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-5 and 7-33 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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